IN THE CLAIMS

The state of claims is as follows:

1. (Original) An eddy current brake mechanism comprising:

a diamagnetic or non-magnetic member;

a fixed linear array of permanent magnets;

a moveable linear array of permanent magnets disposed in a parallel relationship with said fixed linear array of permanent magnets for enabling passage of the member therebetween; and

apparatus for adjusting eddy current induced in the member, and concomitant braking force, through lateral movement of said movable linear array of permanent magnets.

2. (Original) The brake mechanism according to claim 1 wherein the apparatus comprises an actuator disposed in an operational relationship with said movable linear array of permanent magnets.

3. (Original) The brake mechanism according to claim 1 wherein the apparatus comprises a spring attached to said movable linear array of permanent magnets for enabling the lateral movement to be a function of velocity of the member between the magnet arrays.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)